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The Washington Times

SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 1993

AMERICAN SCENE

Pennsylvania academic to head NEH

PHILADELPHIA — The University of Pennsylvania's president will be named to head the National Endowment for the Humanities tomorrow, an agency official said.

Martha Chowning, the agency's liaison to the White House, told the university newspaper Friday that Sheldon Hackney will be nominated for the job.

Mr. Hackney, 59, would become the chairman of an agency that annually distributes \$160 million in research and education grants to scholars, teachers, writers, colleges, libraries and museums.

Mr. Hackney's nomination could provoke opposition from senators who denounced photographs by the late Robert Mapplethorpe as obscene. In 1989, Mr. Hackney defended the Institute of Contemporary Art's decision to host the Mapplethorpe exhibit for five months on Penn's campus. The art institute is financed partly by the university.